



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Petersburg  
National Battlefield

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## Petersburg National Battlefield News Release

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### City Point and the Civil War Evening Walking Tour

On Saturday, June 4, 2011 at 6:00 p.m., Park Ranger Emmanuel Dabney will conduct an hour-long walking tour in the City of Hopewell's City Point Historic District. The tour will begin at the General Grant's Headquarters Unit of Petersburg National Battlefield and will focus on the effect the war had on local families, and the transformation of City Point from small village into massive military supply base. Visitors will have an opportunity to go inside General Ulysses S. Grant's Cabin to learn more about the General's responsibilities as general-in-chief, husband, and father. The tour will also pass by sites associated with the United States Christian Commission which provided religious and material goods to U.S. soldiers during the Petersburg Campaign, the headquarters of the assistant provost marshal, and a place of education for African-American residents of City Point following the end of the Civil War.

#### City Point Civil War History

Historically, by 1860, the town of City Point (now a neighborhood in Hopewell), Virginia had a wharf where passengers could embark to go to Richmond, Baltimore, and beyond. The eastern branch of the Southside Railroad moved materials from Philadelphia, Baltimore, and New York and people from all over within an hour to Petersburg, Virginia. However, with the start of the Civil War in 1861, many of the town's white men enlisted in the Confederate army. A year later, most of the residents fled their homes and property owners did not return until the war was over. U.S. Colored Troops occupied City Point in May 1864 and by mid-June 1864 was the field headquarters of Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant. A major supply depot developed here and President Abraham Lincoln visited City Point twice during the Petersburg Campaign.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

This program is free, but reservations are required. To make a reservation, please call 804-732-3531, ext. 222. If you are connected with voicemail please leave your name, best contact telephone number, e-mail address if you use one, and the number of people in your party. Reservations will be confirmed by return telephone call or e-mail. In the event of thunderstorms or heavy rain the program will be canceled.

Visitors are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes.

The General Grant's Headquarters Unit is located at 1001 Pecan Avenue in Hopewell. For more information, please call (804) 732-3531.

Petersburg National Battlefield was created in order to commemorate the campaign and siege and defense of Petersburg, Virginia, in 1864 and 1865. The park staff is committed to preserving and protecting the historical, cultural, and natural resources within the park in a manner that will provide interpretation, education, and enjoyment for the visitors. Park Visitor Centers, located in Petersburg, Hopewell, and Dinwiddie County are each open from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The fee to enter the park is \$5 per vehicle. The Petersburg National Battlefield annual pass and federal recreation passes are also honored. For more information about events at Petersburg National Battlefield, you can become a fan on our Facebook page or follow us on Twitter @PetersburgNPS.

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